

The City of Monroe  
Commission on Environment and Water Quality  
MINUTES

April 9, 2015 7:00 pm

*The following minutes are not taken verbatim and only reflect an overall representation of the meeting.*

Call to Order: Commissioner LaRoy called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

Members Present: A roll call of members was taken and a quorum was present.

Barry LaRoy  
Isaac Owens  
Richard Micka  
Brian Egen  
Gloria Rafko  
Dan Stefanski via phone

Excused  
Maureen Pfund  
Bonnie Finzel-Doster  
Bob Potter

Special Guests:  
Melanie Foose MDEQ

Approval of minutes from March 12, 2015. Motion was made by Dick to approve minutes, seconded by Brian, motion passed.

PROJECT UPDATES:

- A) Flowering Rush Grants: Commission discussed current project status and the City match commitment to the International Wildlife Refuge Alliance on behalf of the Detroit River-Western Lake Erie Cooperative Weed Management Area. Project is for 2 years with 3 applications per year to begin the eradication of the flowering rush in the river.
- B) 2014 PAC Grant Educational Outreach / Signs: Brian went over brochure, poster, & placemat info, content and selected for the public outreach items to obtain prices on. Also, reviewed signs for dams 1, 4 & 6 that Brian had put together for approval. Sign vendor will hold their 2014 price. Project needs to be completed by the end of May 2015, grant ends May 31.
- C) 2015 PAC Grant: Dan went over the grant application content including media outreach for DNAPL, River Cleanup/Flowering Rush Pull, outreach booklet development, printing

& mailing, web hosting, Strategic Planning Workshop and BUI Celebration. Motion was made by Brian to move forward with Grant Application, seconded by Gloria Rafko, motion passed.

#### MDEQ Update – Melanie Foose

- BUI Removal Document: Went over draft BUI removal document, comments received and asked PAC for support for removal of BUIs (Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations). Motion was made by Ike to move forward with BUI removal, seconded by Gloria, motion passed.
- Final version will be forthcoming. Hoping for removal by summer 2015. With these removals 5 BUIs will be removed of 9. 4 BUIs remain once removed.
- April 6 DEQ press release-to be emailed to COTE
- Info on sediment remediation, see [greatlakesmud.org](http://greatlakesmud.org) – Raisin to have a page added to website, will be added to RR Legacy website once available.
- BUI document to map all projects to be finalized – draft map provided.
- Next SPAC meeting in Port Huron, May 4 & 5, 2015.
- DNAPL – no update.

#### UPDATES from MEMBERS-

- Dan-State Representative, Bill LaVoy to host the June 4 Legislative SPAC meeting in Lansing.
- Brian – shared ice break up footage in the river, Civil War ended April 9, 1865 with Robert E. Lee surrendering
- Dick-provided SPAC info from conference in Toledo, OH, shared footage of ice breakup in river

Motion to Adjourn by Ike and supported Brian – 8:39 pm